

From: Steve Seaquist
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/19/02 1:00am
Subject: Nothing short of splitting the company will suffice

Only if Microsoft is split at least 6 ways will other companies be able to compete against this evil, corrupt behemoth (*):

- (1) operating systems (Windows)
- (2) applications software (Office, MS Works, Publisher, etc)
- (3) hardware (X-Box, UltimateTV, Microsoft Mouse, etc)
- (4) development tools (Visual Basic, C++, SourceSafe, etc)
- (5) Internet products (MSN Messenger, Internet Explorer, BizTalk, etc)
- (6) Internet services (MSN, WebTV, Hotmail, etc)

* Gates and Ballmer must sell their interests in all but one of these. Each of the companies must be prohibited from moving into the other 5 companies' lines of business for at least 8 years.

Only then would the resulting companies' products stand or fall on their own merits, rather than be exalted to de facto standard status by the sheer weight of their company's position in the marketplace.

AND ONLY IF OTHER COMPANIES CAN COMPETE WITH THEM WILL THEIR EVIL BUSINESS PRACTICES STOP.

Because it lacks the element of returning the marketplace to competition, the current settlement proposal is no more likely to work than the appeasement of Hitler did before World War II.

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